

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Natural rubber which contains proteins having a molecular weight of more than 14 kDa, substantially no proteolytic enzyme and its decomposed compounds and substantially no proteins specified by the bands of 14, 31 and 45 kDa by SDS-PAGE and having a nitrogen content of 0.02 to 0.30 % by weight of natural rubber, said natural rubber originating from natural rubber latex containing allergic proteins, which allergic proteins cause Type I allergy.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The rubber of claim 1, the crude rubber of which shows a green strength of 0.1 to 3 MPa (Mega Pascal).

4. (Previously Presented) A rubber composition which comprises the natural rubber of claim 1 and other rubber.

5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 4, wherein the other rubber is styrene butadiene rubber (SBR), acrylonitrile butadiene rubber (NBR), polybutadiene rubber (BR), synthetic polyisoprene (IR), ethylene propylene rubber (EPR), ethylene propylene diene monomer rubber (EPDM) and isobutylene isoprene rubber (IIR).

6. (Original) A tire made from the natural rubber of claim 1.

7. (Currently Amended) Natural rubber which at least contains proteins having a molecular weight of 6.6 kDa to 200 kDa but substantially no proteolytic enzyme and its decomposed compounds and substantially no proteins specified by the bands of 14, 31 and 45 kDa by SDS-PAGE and which has a nitrogen content of 0.02 to 0.30 % by weight of natural rubber, said natural rubber originating from natural rubber latex containing allergic proteins, which allergic proteins cause Type I allergy.